

quality permits is discussed in the attached excerpt from the 1996 Report of the Legislative Committee on New Licensing Boards. The report was an assessment report from the 1996 session on House Bill 880, a bill that would have allowed DEHNR to recognize qualified environmental professionals for purposes of performing UST site work and doing air quality permits without an engineer's seal.

There are concerns about the breadth of the licensing proposal and the number of people that fall under the umbrella of "environmental professional" in House Bill 1040. There are also concerns about the proposal allowing persons not licensed as professional engineers to perform certain activities that have been deemed to constitute the practice of engineering.

The Legislative Committee on New Licensing Boards finds that the proposal to license environmental management professionals does not satisfy the six statutory criteria by which the Committee judges licensure proposals (*see preface*). Specifically, the unregulated practice of the profession will not substantially harm or endanger the public health, safety, or welfare, the public can effectively be protected by other means, and most of the public has the knowledge or experience to evaluate the practitioners' competence.

The Legislative Committee on New Licensing Boards recommends that the legislature not license environmental management professionals. This assessment report constitutes the preliminary assessment report for the licensing of environmental management professionals. The report is based on the proposed licensing of environmental management professionals as set out in